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APPENDIX A

Process for producing
formed cellulosic articles

The invention relates to a process for producing formed cellulosic articles, particularly fibres and filaments, comprising a) dissolving cellulose in an aqueous solution of a tertiary amine oxide, especially N-methylmorpholine N-oxide, and b) extruding the cellulose solution through an extrusion die via an air gap into a precipitation bath with precipitation of the formed articles, said cellulose solution and/or said precipitation bath containing a tenside.

It is known that with the fibre spinning the risk of mutual contact of the solution jets in the air gap and the danger for the fibres of sticking together is the greater the longer the distance of the spinneret from the precipitation bath surface is. This tendency can be counteracted by decreasing the hole density of the spinneret whereby however the economical efficiency is impaired. From spinning fibres with a great air gap width it is known to obviate this sticking risk by additions to the dope and to improve the spinnability. From DD 218 121 the addition of polyalkylene ether to the cellulose solution is known with air gap widths of 150 mm. According to DD 286 001 a tenside is added when preparing the dope in order to improve the uniformity and the fineness of the thread. From WO 95/16063 a spinning process is known in which tensides are added to the precipitation bath and/or to the dope in order to reduce the fibrillation tendency of the spun fibres. With this process the tenside concentration in the precipitation bath is at least 100 ppm by mass and in the dope is at least 250 ppm by mass. The air gap width amounts to 40 mm.